## REMARKS

The specification (abstract) has been objected to in the Office Action. A replacement abstract has been provided. No new matter has been added.

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claim 3 has been amended to remove the antecedent basis problem.

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Hamamatsu. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Referring to figures 53 and 54 of Hamamatsu, an arrangement for the control and monitoring of substation main circuit components is disclosed, with a station control computation device 4 that is connected via a station bus 7 to main circuit controllers 5-1 to 5-n and protecting units 6-1 to 6-n. A local controller 9-1 to 9-n is connected to the main circuit controllers and the protecting devices, which are connected to current transformers 10, voltage transformers 11, and a switch gear 12. According to Hamamatsu, this arrangement has, for example, the disadvantage that for analog data transmission a plurality of electrical lines 15, 16 (figure 53) must be provided.

In order to get around this disadvantage, a system is proposed according to figure 1 in which a station control computation device in the form of the substation controlling and monitoring equipment 4 is connected via a station bus 7 to so-called protection and controlling units 23-1 to 23-n. The protection and controlling units 23-1 to 23-n are connected via a process bus 29 to a component controlling and monitoring unit 30 as well as a sensor unit 28. This arrangement corresponds essentially to the arrangement cited in the Background section of the instant application.

In the claimed invention, **functions of the main circuit controller and the protecting device are integrated in the station control computation device**. In other words the station control computation device, the main circuit controller, and the protecting device are replaced **by a single device**, e. g. a personal computer. Thereby a communications bus can be spared since no

more data have to be exchanged between the substation controlling and monitoring equipment, the main circuit control unit, and the protecting device since the substation controlling and monitoring equipment, the main circuit control unit, and the protecting device are, as mentioned, replaced by a single device. Hamamatsu fails to disclose this feature.

In Hamamatsu, the main circuit controller 21 and the protecting device 22 are in fact formed by a common unit in the form of the protection and controlling unit, PCU, 23, but the protection and controlling unit, PCU, 23 is **not a component of the substation controlling and monitoring equipment** 4. This can be seen, for example, from the fact that between the station control computation device according to Hamamatsu and the protection and controlling unit 23 a station bus 7 is provided. In addition, the protection and controlling unit 23 is located **outside of the main control building** 1, as is indicated by a dot-and-dashed-line frame in figure 1. From figure 2 it follows that the **protection and controlling unit 23 is located in the immediate vicinity of the actual substation main circuit components** and is disposed **on a common base** B with them. There is therefore a **clear spatial separation between the substation controlling and monitoring equipment and the protection and controlling unit 23**.

In Hamamatsu (figure 1), **two communications buses**, namely the station bus 7 and the process bus 29 are needed in addition for data transmission. In the claimed invention, on the other hand, this is not the case. By the integration of the main circuit controller and the protecting device in the station control computation device **a communication bus is omitted** (for example, the station bus 7) so that in the arrangement according to the claimed invention it is still the case that **a single communication bus** is used.

To summarize, the protecting and control device 23 can**not be a station control computation device** according to the claimed invention since the station control computation device serves to control and monitor several switch panels and thus must be disposed at the highest hierarchical level of the substation. Thus, the station control computation device corresponds to the substation controlling and monitoring equipment 4 of Hamamatsu. The protecting and control device 23 is consequently merely the combination of a main circuit controller 21 and a protecting

device 22 in a common device that is disposed in the immediate vicinity of the switching station but not the integration of these two devices in one station control computation device.

Since the recited structure is not disclosed by the applied prior art, claim 1 is patentable. Claims 2-5, depending from claim 1, are similarly patentable.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122079800. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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